

The West Virginia Department of Health and Human Resources, Bureau for Public Health (BPH) continues to respond to the novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19) in West Virginia. BPH is working closely with communities, state agencies, local and federal partners to monitor the ongoing risk of COVID-19 and ensure the health and protection of all individuals in West Virginia.

Under Governor Jim Justice's reopening plan, "West Virginia Strong: The Comeback," all campgrounds can reopen with the limited services and usages outlined below. To assist with the reopening, Gov. Justice has issued [guidelines](#) to mitigate the exposure and spread of COVID-19 among workers and campers. Campgrounds are allowed and encouraged to implement more stringent protocols as they see fit. As your business reviews and implements these new measures, we encourage you to share and discuss them with your employees and customers. Communicating enhanced cleaning and sanitization practices will make workers and campers feel more confident in your campgrounds. Please note: Gov. Justice's Executive Order prohibits new arrivals of out-of-state visitors to campgrounds.

COMMON SYMPTOMS OF COVID-19

- Fever
- Cough
- Shortness of breath
- Chills
- Muscle pain
- Sore throat
- Recent loss of taste or smell

PERSON-TO-PERSON TRANSMISSION

- Occurs via small droplets from the nose or mouth of the infected person when they cough, sneeze, or exhale.
- Virus can remain on surfaces for a limited time period. Although less common, transmission may occur from touching contaminated surfaces and then touching your eyes, nose or mouth.

GENERAL PREVENTION

- Learn about COVID-19 from reputable sources.
- Maintain physical distance of at least 6 feet between yourself and others.
- Encourage proper handwashing.
- Clean and sanitize surfaces often.
- Do not share food, drinks, etc.
- Wear cloth face coverings.
- Stay home if you feel sick.
- Isolate sick individuals.

SOCIAL (PHYSICAL) DISTANCE

- Camping units (i.e., tents, trailers, campers) must maintain a minimum of 30 feet from adjacent camping units. When possible, reserve only nonadjacent campsites.

SOCIAL (PHYSICAL) DISTANCE continued

- Only one camping unit is allowed per site according to the [guidelines](#). This shall be strictly enforced.
- No day passes or visitors. Only persons listed on the registration are allowed on the property.
- Avoid large groups; prohibit gatherings of 10 or more people in one location within the campground.
- Encourage social (physical) distancing of 6 feet between other groups in the campground.

AMENITIES

- Food and beverage services: Onsite restaurants must follow [guidelines for restaurants](#).
- Common Areas: All areas that encourage gatherings, such as pavilions, gazebos, playgrounds and picnic areas, must remain closed.
- Onsite pools shall remain closed until further notice. Please refer to [Guidance for Recreational Water Facilities](#).
- Fitness Centers: Onsite fitness centers must follow the Governors Guidance for Fitness Centers, gymnasiums and recreations centers.
- Outdoor Recreation Equipment Rentals: Onsite recreation equipment rentals must follow Gov. Justice's most recent [guidelines for outdoor recreation outfitters](#).
- Gift Shops or Camp Stores: Onsite giftshops or camp stores must follow Gov. Justice's most recent [guidelines for retail stores](#).

SANITATION

- Campground restrooms (including privies) and bath houses, if provided, shall be cleaned throughout the day but at a minimum at the start of the day, mid-day, and end of day.

SANITATION continued

- Include frequently touched surfaces like handles, levers, doorknobs, and feminine hygiene disposal boxes with fixture cleaning. Use the cleaning agents that are normally used in these areas and follow the directions on the label.
- Provide disposable wipes or paper towels so that a barrier can be placed between hands and commonly used surfaces.
- Post signage about patron health and COVID-19 prevention and remind patrons not to gather in groups.
- Encourage proper handwashing.
- Use approved disinfectant products:
 - [American Chemistry Council: Novel Coronavirus \(COVID-19\)](#)
 - [EPA List N: Disinfectants for Use Against SARS-CoV-2](#)
 - Dilute bleach solutions, made fresh daily:
 - 1/3 cup of bleach per gallon of water
 - 4 teaspoons of bleach per quart of water
 - Alcohol solutions with at least 70% alcohol
- Mop floors with disinfectant or bleach solution, as recommended above.

CAMPER SAFETY

- Campers should be strongly encouraged to wear cloth or disposable cloth face coverings.
- No day passes or visitors. Only persons listed on the registration are allowed on the property.
- No campsite can be rented for longer than 14 nights.
- Campers shall be advised to practice physical distancing by staying at least 6 feet away from other groups of people not traveling with them.
- Group campsites are prohibited.
- Campground staff should monitor camper use of popular trails and scenic overlooks. Use may need to be limited to avoid overcrowding and encourage proper social distancing.
- Campers should be encouraged to bring disinfecting cleaners and hand sanitizers for use throughout their stay.

CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT

- Campers are encouraged to self-screen for COVID-19 symptoms with the following questions:
 - Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
 - Are you experiencing a cough, shortness of breath, or sore throat?
 - Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?

CHECK-IN & CHECK-OUT continued

- Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
- Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?
- Campers are encouraged to take their temperatures daily. If their temperature measures over 100 degrees, campers should leave immediately.
- Any camper who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms (i.e., answers yes to any of the screening questions or who is running a fever) must leave the grounds immediately and seek medical care and/or COVID-19 testing, per [CDC guidelines](#).
- Remote check-ins, where campers go directly to their sites, is preferable. Consider implementing mobile or web-based check-ins. Check-in procedures must include screening and tracing forms being completed by all campers.

EMPLOYEE SAFETY

- Screen employees: Screen all employees reporting to work daily for COVID-19 symptoms with the following questions:
 - Have you been in close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19?
 - Have you had a fever in the last 48 hours?
 - Have you had new loss of taste or smell?
 - Have you had vomiting or diarrhea in the last 24 hours?
- Temperature checks: Employees are encouraged to take their temperature prior to leaving for work or upon arrival. If their temperature measures over 100 °F, the employee should notify management and not return to work that day and any future days when their temperature is over 100 °F.
- Report any COVID-19 positive staff immediately to your local health department.
- Staff must wear a clean cloth face covering, unless safety is inhibited, or other type of personal protective equipment (PPE) required by the employer due to nature of the work being performed.
- Encourage increased handwashing, use of hand sanitizer, and covering coughs and sneezes appropriately for all employees and campers.
- Minimize the use of shared equipment whenever possible (phones, desks, headsets, etc.). If shared, clean and disinfect between uses.
- Direct any employee who exhibits COVID-19 symptoms (i.e., answers yes to any of the screening questions or who is running a fever) to

EMPLOYEE SAFETY continued

- leave the premises immediately and seek medical care and/or COVID-19 testing, per CDC guidelines.
- Employers should maintain the confidentiality of employee health information.
- Consider special accommodations for employees that are members of a vulnerable population, like senior citizens or immunocompromised people, including encouraging teleworking to the maximum extent possible, among other measures.
- Develop and implement policies and procedures for employee contact tracing following an employee with a positive COVID-19 test and inform the local health department of such positive test and tracing.
- Inform team members to contact the department manager immediately for additional supplies if PPE and cleaning supplies run low.
- Discourage workers from sharing resources or other work tools or equipment whenever possible.
- Physical distancing among all employees shall be practiced as much as possible.
- Campground management should establish a means to communicate with campers over the internet or telephone. This will limit face-to-face interactions for transactions such as checking into the campground and receiving complaints/recommendations from campers.
- In addition to the specific guidelines for West Virginia campgrounds above, businesses and their employees should be mindful of the more general guidance issued for small businesses found at governor.wv.gov and coronavirus.wv.gov.

USE OF FACE MASKS AND COVERINGS

- CDC recommends the use of simple cloth face masks or coverings as a voluntary public health measure in public settings where other social distancing measures are difficult to maintain.
- For workers who do not typically wear face masks or coverings as part of their jobs, consider the following if you choose to use a cloth face covering to slow the spread of COVID-19.
 - Launder reusable face masks or coverings before each daily use.
 - CDC also has [additional information](#) on the use of face masks and coverings, including washing instructions and information on how to make them.
 - Individuals should be careful not to touch their eyes, nose, and mouth when removing their cloth face mask or covering and wash hands immediately after removing.

NOTE: The cloth face coverings recommended by CDC are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders, as recommended by current CDC guidance.

Questions and concerns can also be directed to the 24/7, toll-free COVID-19 information hotline:

1-800-887-4304

